



**City of Milpitas
Approved Veterans Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 3, 2014
5:30 p.m.**

**Milpitas City Hall Committee Room
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.
Milpitas, CA 95035**

I. CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 p.m.

II. FLAG SALUTE: Chair Weisgerber led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Present: Denny Weisgerber, Dana Arbaugh, Arthur Ebright, Liliana Ramos, Allen Thomas, and Andre Ramones

Absent: Bruce Choy (E), David Grundstrom (UE)

IV. SEATING OF ALTERNATES: Allen Thomas and Andre Ramones were seated as voting members.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Chair Arbaugh moved, and Commissioner Ramos seconded the motion to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of October 15, 2014

Commissioner Ramos moved, and Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. PUBLIC FORUM: None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion on Street Naming for Milpitas Veterans – Chair Weisgerber

Chair Weisgerber asked the Commission to consider naming a street after Senior Airman Khiem Nguyen who attended Milpitas High School and drowned while fishing on Veterans Day this year in Carmel at the age of 24. Staff Liaison Valdez explained there is a process in place for naming streets in Milpitas and discussed the procedure.

Vice Chair Arbaugh moved, and Commissioner Ramos seconded the motion to submit Senior Airman Kheim Nguyen's name to the Planning Director for consideration. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

1. Final Debrief – 2nd Annual Car Show – Chair Wesigerber

The Commission discussed the 2nd Annual Car Show. The commissioners commented on how well the PA system worked, that the raffle was successful, and the Boy Scouts did an excellent job selling food. There was also discussion about the lateness of the DJ's set-up. Staff Liaison Valdez said the DJ indicated he was interested in coming back next year and he would advertise the car show on the radio.

Commission Thomas recommended using a mobile sign from the Milpitas Police Department at the main intersection indicating the car show was that day and open to the public, because many people thought it was a private show. He also suggested a balloon arch at the entrance welcoming spectators, some signage inside the parking lot indicating where the raffle sign-ups were and informing them they could participate in the car show.

Commissioner Ramos commented she liked the set-up this year, recommended getting the recruiters and the vehicles together.

Staff Liaison Valdez discussed the surveys she received from the participants. The participants liked the staging area in the plaza, the Boy Scouts being present and selling food, remarked that attendance seemed low and recommended more and earlier advertising. Some participants felt the music was too loud, there were too many categories and too broad, and to focus on streamlining the categories next year. It was suggested to engage the children making it more of a family event such as tot lot, jump house, etc. Again better advertising was mentioned, too many prizes in one bag, and to let raffle winners choose their prizes. They liked the open space parking but suggested condensing the space if there were fewer entries next year and creating an overflow lot if there are empty spaces. There was a suggestion to have plaques instead trophies for the winners, and the t-shirts and dog tags were well received.

Staff Liaison Valdez informed the Commission there was a total of 85 registrants and suggested the focus next year should be on vehicle registrations and earlier advertising.

Chair Weisgerber said the Commission should start earlier in preparing for the car show and suggested assigning commissioners at the beginning of the year to handle registration, advertising, donors, etc. Edward Ackerman suggested distributing sponsor letters earlier too. Staff Liaison Valdez said she would reserve the community center for next year.

Vice Chair Arbaugh moved, and Commissioner Ramos seconded the motion for staff to prepare a sponsor letter. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Ebright stated he investigated various charities and he recommended Wounded Warrior Project, USO at the San Jose Airport, Navy Marine Corp. Relief Society, and Disabled American Veterans Charitable Service Trust. Edward Ackerman discussed the Defender's Lodge charity and distributed a flyer to the Commission. Commissioner Ramos suggested the San Jose Vet Center.

Staff Liaison Valdez said she would compose a list of the charities discussed at tonight's meeting and email this list to the commissioners, so the Commission could make a decision at its meeting in February.

X. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chair Weisgerber apologized to Commissioner Ramones for not introducing him at the Veterans ceremony.

XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Chair Weisgerber asked that discussion about the Blue Star Families be placed on the next agenda. Staff Liaison Valdez agreed and stated the election of Chair and Vice Chair and the Work Plan will also be on the February agenda.

XII. LIAISON REPORTS

- A. City Council – Councilmember Indihar Giordano announced that there was a swearing in ceremony for the new councilmembers at the last City Council meeting. Marsha Grilli and Garry Barbadillo were sworn in as councilmembers and Vice Mayor Althea Polanski and Councilmember Armando Gomez finished their terms. The Mayor was sworn in again and he appointed Carmen Montano to Vice Mayor.
- B. Staff Report – Staff Liaison Valdez informed the Commission that Juan Samano officially resigned from the Commission and the Mayor will make the next appointment. She added that Kathy Ynegas will be retiring from the City and this is her last meeting. Kathy Ynegas said it was a pleasure working with the Commission.

XIII. NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, February 4, 2015, at 5:30 p.m.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Weisgerber adjourned the meeting at 6:06 p.m.